

May 22, 1975

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: I'm sure you can, that's why I voted against it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. As a new member I just wondered how many studies a committee can have. Senator Barnett, I don't know whether this is the best one to study or not, but I notice there are 10 other studies for the Judiciary only. All members of the Judiciary are on another committee that will have at least three or four. Is this possible to study this much? I really don't know? I'm just questioning you.

SENATOR BARNETT: Oh yes.

SENATOR NICHOL: Plenty of time?

SENATOR BARNETT: Oh yeah.

SENATOR NICHOL: No problem?

SENATOR BARNETT: No problem.

SENATOR NICHOL: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I'd like to ask Senator Luedtke a question, if I may, relative to this. Senator Luedtke, my understanding is the Executive Board has granted chairmen and committees a pretty broad spectrim for study as they see fit. Is this not true.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: That is correct, Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Could you then, Senator Luedtke, study this if you saw fit without a resolution?

SENATOR LUEDTKE: I feel very strongly that we could and particularly for one other reason, that is that the Judiciary Committee is also a statutory committee known as the Nebraska Advisor Committee on Criminal Justice, I'm shortening it up. In that respect we have the duty and responsibility of investigating in the interim and all the time, during session and out of session, all matters relating to the criminal justice system. Certainly anything that is involved in the perpetration of a crime would fit into that category. I introduced this ... if I may just take the time in answering the question, Senator Carsten, on your time here. The reason I introduced the resolution was to bring to the body's attention that the handgun and particularly the "Saturday Night Special" problem is a problem in crime in this country as well as in Nebraska, as atested to by the Mayor Zorinsky of Omaha bringing to the attention of that city some very severe problems in respect to the use of guns in the perpetration of crime. I felt that I should bring to your attention the fact that the Judiciary Committee probably would be getting into this matter. I thought it was only fair to do it officially before the whole body. However, I also think it's only fair to tell you that we can. That answers your question, we'll do it any way.